COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Monday, *the* *5th of August 1929.*
21st of Karkadagam 1104.

The House met at Half past Eleven of the Clock with the President in the Chair. Messrs. E. Ikkanda Warriar, S. S. Koder, A. K. Kunhi Moideen, V. D. Ouseph and I. Raman Menon were absent.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Agricultural loans.

181. Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the Table a statement showing the names with the amounts received by each of those who have been granted agricultural loans of Rs. 50 and above during the year 1104 up-to-date?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—The statement is placed on the Council Table.

182. Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether there are applicants for agricultural loans during the year 1104 up-to-date, who are not granted loans and if so, their names and the reasons for refusing to make the grant in each case;

(b) what is the principle underlying the grant of agricultural loans and who is the final authority to decide the matter of the grant?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—(a) 1. Yes, about 800.

2. Government do not consider it worthwhile to spend time and labour to prepare a list of these applicants. The applications were rejected on one or more of the following grounds:—

(i) the loan asked for was in excess of Rs. 1,000, which was the maximum decided to be advanced;

(ii) the security offered was insufficient or encumbered;

(iii) the loan applied for was on enquiry found to be not for *bona fide* agricultural purposes;

(iv) failure to produce the title deeds of properties offered as security;

(v) want of funds.

(b) The principle followed in granting the loans was to distribute the available fund among as many of the deserving

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applicants as was possible according to their actual need. The Diwan Peishkar is the final authority to decide the matter of the grant.

Substituted service of the Nursing Sisters.

183. Mr. K. J. Antony.—Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(1) whether one Sister Elizabeth doing duty in the Civil Hospital at Trichur was on leave for some time during the month of Dhanu 1104 ; if so, from which date did she avail herself of leave ;

(2) did the Civil Surgeon make a report that she began absenting herself from Christmas Day, that is, from the 11th Dhanu 1104; if so, whether his report was correct and if not, whether action was taken against him for making an incorrect report ;

(3) was her leave application formally submitted by the Civil Surgeon to the Chief-Medical and Sanitary Officer and previous sanction obtained before she was permitted to leave the Hospital;

(4) when was the first report made by the Civil Surgeon on the matter of Sister Elizabeth's absence from the Civil Hospital and when was her leave application for the first time forwarded to the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer ; is this application written in the very hand-writing of the Civil Surgeon and if so, how did it happen to be in his own hand ; does not the Sister know to write in English ;

(5) during the time Sister Elizabeth was on leave in Dhanu 1104, is leave marked against her name in the attendance register or is she marked as being present on those days; will the Government kindly lay the attendance register of the period on the Table ;

(6) whether it is a fact that the Civil Surgeon allowed another Sister to do duty in the Civil Hospital for and on behalf of Sister Elizabeth during the time the latter first absented herself from the Hospital ; whether the Civil Surgeon had the authority to accept such substituted service on his own score without obtaining previous sanction from the Head of the Department ; if he had not the authority, did he obtain the necessary sanction and if he did not, was the Civil Surgeon taken to task for such gross misconduct on his part ;

(7) has the Civil Surgeon almost made a confession in this connection to the effect that his sheer ignorance of *the C. S. R.* made him commit this series of blunders ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—(1) to (7). The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

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